Attorney Docket No.: Q79516

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Application No.: 10/767,469

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-25 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Hasebe et al (US 2003/0103002 A1). Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) rejection, as set forth below.

Amended claim 1 recites in part:

an input unit;

- a geomagnetic sensor which detects a geographical direction;
- a storage unit which stores therein information on directions between major cities of all the nations and the specific location:
- a first display which shows the direction to the specific location and an orientation of the portable device on a screen; and
- a control unit which receives via the input unit and manages a direction searching command for searching the direction to the specific location and a current city information setup by a user, and which indicates the orientation of a portable device and the direction to the specific location on the first display based on the detected geographical direction from the geomagnetic sensor, and the direction information between the current city information setup through the input unit and the specific location stored in the storage unit.

The Examiner has indicated that Hasebe generally discloses the invention but has not accounted for the particular features of claim 1.

First, Hasebe fails to teach or suggest [1] a storage unit which stores therein information on directions between major cities of all the nations and the specific location and [2] a control

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unit which receives via the input unit and manages a direction searching command for searching the direction to the specific location and a current city information setup by a user, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner maintains that "Hasebe et al further teaches a storage unit (Hasebe et al, Figure 2, 16)." (Office Action, page) However, the storage unit 16 in Hasebe fails to teach or suggest "a storage unit which stores therein information on directions between major cities of all the nations and the specific location", as recited in claim 1. Moreover, the Examiner has not identified that the same is disclosed in Hasebe, and Hasebe is silent with respect to these features.

Also, the Examiner appears to suggest that Figure 3, input section 8, and paragraph [0049] of Hasebe teach a control unit which receives via the input unit a direction searching command for searching a direction to the specific location and a current city information setup by a user, because an arrow 15 is shown in Figure 3. Even assuming, arguendo, that input section 8 (in relation to processor 1) were input with a direction searching command, it cannot be concluded that input section 8 (in relation to processor 1) is input with and manages a current city information setup by a user, as recited in claim 1. The Examiner has not pointed out in Hasebe where such a feature is disclosed.

Indeed, in a previous Office Action dated April 22, 2006, the Examiner conceded that "although Hasebe mentions about the memory devices (3, 4)... Hasebe does not teach that such storage unit for storing information on directions between major cites of all the nations and the specific location. Hasebe does not disclose a direction searching command for searching a direction to the specific location with a current city information setup by user." (Office Action dated April 22, 2006, pages 3 and 4). Surely, these missing features have not suddenly been

disclosed in Hasebe.

Second, the Examiner maintains that "Hasebe et al teaches a display (9) that includes an

arrow indicating a direction to a specific location, and that in the second embodiment of the

patent, the display also shows an orientation of the portable device and the specific locations

(Hasebe et al, page 4, paragraph 0057)." (Office Action, page 3)

However, such mixing and matching of components from different embodiments is

impermissible because "[t]he elements must be arranged as required by the claim." M.P.E.P.

§ 2131. The teachings of different embodiments in a single reference may not be combined

absent a suggestion to do so. In re Kramer, 18 USPQ2d 1415, 1416 (Fed. Cir. 1991). The

Examiner cannot arbitrarily select a feature from a separate embodiment in Hasebe an attempt to

meet the requirements of the claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Hasebe does not anticipate or render obvious the

above-identified features of claim 1. Therefore, the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection of claims 1-8

should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTION - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable

over Hasebe et al (U.S. 2003/0103002A1) and in view of Feigen (U.S. 2001/0041961A1).

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection, as set forth below.

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As discussed above. Hasebe is deficient vis-à-vis independent claim 1. Feigen does not

compensate for the deficiencies of Hasebe. Therefore, claims 7 and 8 are patentable by virtue of

their dependency on base claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of claim 7 and 8 should

be withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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